

# National Intelligence Stud

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## CIN — An Update

by

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The founding and the first year's activities of the Common  
were reported in FILS, Volume 2, number 5, October 1983,  
an update on Thomas Troy's report.

Professional intelligence officers have traditionally been  
their work — shouting their good works from the housetop  
professional association which would bring public atten  
simply not the thing to do. But Congress changed all that.

As Tom Troy wrote, "retired intelligence officers, old pros, ... reacted to the media  
ceaseless round of accusations, investigations, revelations, and condemnations of  
the intelligence agencies. They had organized in defense of themselves, their  
careers, their craft, their agencies. At the same time, they had found natural  
allies -- retired military, defense specialists, some academicians, public-spirited  
citizens -- whose concern for national defense made them also supportive of a  
strong, effective national intelligence system."

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"Out of the collaboration there came on the Washington scene, in the last decade,  
more than a baker's dozen of either new intelligence organizations or old  
organizations with a new interest in intelligence. From them came in the  
aggregate much talking, meeting, fund raising, and promoting of causes and  
projects. So much, in fact, that retired Ambassador Elbridge Durbrow of the  
Security and Intelligence Fund (now the Security and Intelligence Foundation) was  
laughingly moved to complain, 'There are too damned many people barking up the  
same tree. There's need for some coordination.' "

There had been some suggestion of a super-organization, to which all others could  
belong, which would act as a coordinating body for their efforts. Some  
organizations talked of combining, but as is normally the case, the question of  
which organization would be subsumed brought all these efforts to naught.

At the October 1981 convention of the National Military Intelligence Association  
(NMIA) at the National Defense University in Washington, D.C., leaders of four  
professional intelligence groups discussed the profession, and particularly the role  
of their organizations. In addition to NMIA, the National